



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, November 8, 2007**

**07-160**

**FAIRBANKS DUO PLEAD GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO  
SEVERAL CONSPIRACY-RELATED DRUG CHARGES**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on November 7, 2007, Marcus Nelson and Rene Garcia, both residents of Fairbanks, Alaska, pleaded guilty in federal court to several charges related to the attempted distribution of cocaine.

Nelson, age 37, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and one count of attempted possession of cocaine with the intent to distribute. Garcia, age 41, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and one count of attempted possession of cocaine with the intent to distribute. Nelson and Garcia, who are co-defendants, pleaded guilty before Chief United States District Court Judge John W. Sedwick.

In connection with the guilty pleas, Assistant United States Attorney Shawn C. Fuller advised the court that on or about June 4, 2007, in Fairbanks, Alaska, Nelson and Garcia conspired with one another to distribute approximately four kilograms of cocaine, which was concealed inside a parcel sent through the mail and delivered to Nelson's P.O. Box in Fairbanks.

Judge Sedwick did not set a date for Nelson or Garcia's sentencing hearings. Each count provides for a maximum sentence of life in prison, with a mandatory minimum of 10 years, a fine of \$4,000,000, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentences imposed are based on the seriousness of the offenses and the criminal history, if any, of the defendants.

The Court ordered Nelson and Garcia to remain incarcerated until their sentencing hearings.

Mr. Cohen commended the coordinated effort by the Drug Enforcement Administration Interdiction Task force, the United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Fairbanks Police Department, who conducted the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Nelson and Garcia.

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